

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the abstract and substitute therefor:

--A material for gland packing including a sheet-like reinforcing member configured by a fibrous material disposed at least on one face of a strip-like expanded graphite to form a strip-like base member. The base member is stranded to be formed as a cord-like member. Then, the outer side of the cord-like member is covered by a portion of the reinforcing member, and the remaining portion of the reinforcing member is involved in the cord-like member. A large number of openings are formed in the reinforcing member, and a strip-like expanded graphite faces the openings engages with the openings.--